REMARKS

Claim 1- 18 are pending. Claim 1- 18 have been rejected. Claims 1, 6 and 10-11 have been amended. Claim 2, 7 and 12 are cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-6, 8-11 and 13-18 remain pending in the present application.

Appellants' invention provides package resolution in a database system. Specifically, a statement is provided in a server that allows an application to identify a list of package collections, and the statement is executed to obtain the appropriate package. Moreover, a new current package path value associated with a list of package collections is set so that a list of qualified package collections is supplied during runtime. Claim 1 is illustrative:

1. A method for providing package resolution in a database system, the method comprising:

providing a SET CURRENT PACKAGE PATH statement within a server of the database system, the SET CURRENT PACKAGE PATH statement sets a CURRENT PACKAGE PATH VALUE associated with a list of package collections so that a list of qualified package collections is supplied during runtime, wherein each identified package collection includes a plurality of packages and each package is usable during execution of one or more other database statements issued by the application;

responsive to issuance of the database statement by the application, executing the database statement to locate at least one of the plurality of packages included in at least one of the identified package collections; and

caching the at least one package in a storage of the server, the at least one package being used during execution of the one or more other database statements issued by the application.

The Appeal Board has stated:

CLAIMS 2, 7 and 12

We note at the outset that the claim merely recites the name of a statement, but does not recite its corresponding functionality. In general, such non-functional recitations constitute non-functional descriptive material as they do not further limit the claimed invention either functionally or structurally. Such non-functional descriptive material dues not patentably distinguish over prior art that otherwise renders the claims unpatentable.

That said, we acknowledge that the "SET CURRENT PACKAGE PATH" statement is intended to set a "CURRENT PACKAGE PATH" value associated with a list of package collections so that a list of qualified package collections is supplied during runtime. FF 2 and 4. But claim 2 does not recite this disclosed functionality, nor will we import this functionality into the claim. *See Phillips,* 415 F.3d at 1323.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Applicants have amended claims 1, 6 and 11 to incorporate the limitations of 2, 7 and 12 respectively.

Accordingly, the independent claims now all recite the disclosed functionality.

Applicants respectfully submit the recitation in combination with the other elements of these claims is neither taught nor suggested by Bird. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 6 and 11 are allowable over the cited references. Claims 3-5, 8-10 and 13-18 are also allowable since they depend upon allowable claims as well as being allowable on their own merits.

CONCLUSION

Applicants' attorney believes this application is in condition for allowance.

Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicants'

attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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